

1. April 11, 2017 email:

PERRO representatives say that they requested an air monitor shortly after the 2004 referendum (so, in 2005) but the EPA told them they lacked cause – until the standards changed in 2009 and a monitor was installed.

Does that sound right? (Or would this be a better question for the Illinois EPA?)

Also, do you have any idea how much air monitors cost, or cost then?

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2. March 13, 2017 Email:

From: Jessica Pupovac [<mailto:jpupovac@wttw.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2017 12:40 PM
To: Arcaute, Francisco <Arcaute.Francisco@epa.gov>
Cc: Bassler, Rachel <Bassler.Rachel@epa.gov>; Mendoza, Ramon <mendoza.ramon@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: request for interview re: H. Kramer remediation site

Hello, Francisco –

I haven't heard back from you, and wanted to make sure you have my questions (below) and that I'm in your queue. I imagine it is a hectic time for everyone at the EPA, so I understand if you've been otherwise engaged... I don't want to slip through the cracks, though.

If I could just chat with Ramon, or someone else familiar with the project, in the near future, that would be most helpful. Many of these questions can probably be cleared up in a simple conversation.

Please let me know how you'd like me to proceed. My deadlines are looming.

Thanks so much,
Jessica

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3. Jan. 19, 2017 Email:

I've seen the information on your website, but have a handful of follow-up questions. I'll paste those below, to help move things along.

We are hoping to publish something in March or April, as remediation work resumes, but since I have a lot of questions (Sorry! It's my job!), I just wanted to get the ball rolling early.

Here are my questions:

GENERAL:

- Is this considered a superfund site? (If not, why not?)
- Why is it not on the NPL?

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- How many homes in the [Pilsen Soil Operable Unit 2 Residential Site](#) have signed the [consent for access to property](#)? Can I obtain your list of homeowners, or everyone in the area who you sent letters to?
- Is there a place where I can find all materials that have been sent to the OU2 homes? If not, may I request copies?

SETTLEMENT W/ H. KRAMER:

- I see in the agreement that H. Kramer will target homes with non-permanent covers in their yard for testing and remediation. But what about subterranean contamination in homes without greenspace? If a homeowner wishes to develop their property in the future, will they be able to turn to H Kramer or the EPA for financial assistance in remediating any contaminated soil (with lead levels above 400 mg/kg)?
- Can individuals sue Kramer for any damages to their health or property, or does the settlement agreement effectively act as a class action?

HISTORY OF SITE (and questions from administrative settlement/unilateral order):

- Was 2013 the first time EPA sampled the soil surrounding H. Kramer and OA2? If so, why?
- Why has it taken so long for this soil remediation to take place?
 - PERRO found lead in its independent soil samples in 2005. Ten years later, in a 2015 action memorandum, Ramon Mendoza requested funds - up to \$3.9 million

- to conduct a “time-critical removal action” in the Pilsen site. Those funds were approved by Richard Karl, superfund director, on 8/3/2015. Why the delay?

- EPA has tracked both fugitive and stack emissions from H Kramer from 1987 to present. How has that happened? (Have all of those figures been self-reported by H. Kramer & Co.?) Was nothing tracked prior to 1987? Why not?
- Was there a period when H. Kramer was operating without proper pollution controls? If so, when?
- Do we know when H. Kramer began producing lead-containing alloys?

REGULATIONS:

- Why even allow a plant like this to operate in a residential area? Shouldn't there be permits for this sort of thing that make it so that they can't be within a certain distance of schools, etc.? (Or is that a question to direct elsewhere?)

TRI DATA:

- Is there any reason why “total air emissions” can't be compared across several years [on this page?](#) (If I chart this out visually for readers, would that be misleading?)
- It looks like H. Kramer's lead emissions dropped drastically in 2005. Is there any reason why that might be?
- In 2011, H. Kramer is claiming 56,982 pounds of on-site landfill releases of lead in its TRI report. Is that from their onsite soil clean-up? What do “onsite landfill releases” mean, exactly?

MISC.

- What has been done thus far to clean up Harrison Park?
- What are the arsenic levels in the soil?
- How important has PERRO been in moving this entire process along in the Pilsen community?

Thank you so much for your help. Please let me know if you'd like me to direct any of these queries to a different department.

And I can be reached anytime at work (773.509.5547) or on my cell (773.744.2414).

All the best,

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4. Jan 18, 2017 email:

From: Jessica Pupovac [<mailto:jpupovac@wtw.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2017 1:59 PM
To: Mendoza, Ramon <mendoza.ramon@epa.gov>
Subject: request for interview re: H. Kramer remediation site

Hello –

I'm a reporter for WTTW.com and am working on a story about PERRO and their work to reduce emissions and clean up the contaminated soil near the H. Kramer & Co. facility.

I just left you a voicemail.

I have a handful of questions about the history of the site and the EPA's ongoing efforts to remediate the soil in the surrounding neighborhood. Would there be a good time to chat, or visit, with you?

Let me know what makes sense.

Thanks so much,

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